

**Washington, DC** – Congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel) spoke on the House floor in honor of the life and work of Sargent Shriver. Mr. Farr's remarks can be viewed by visiting <http://www.youtube.com/user/CongressmanSamFarr>

***Congressman Farr's remarks as prepared for delivery:***

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my good friend, Sargent Shriver. Sarge embodied the relentless spirit of public service that makes America great. He will forever hold a special place in our country's history.

I met Sarge back in 1963. He was the first Director of the Peace Corps and I met him before I left to serve as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Medellin, Colombia. I look back with pride and admiration at what a privilege it was to serve under his leadership.

With the Peace Corps, Sarge took President Kennedy's vision of service and optimism and built it into one of America's best institutions. After three years as the Director of the agency, the Peace Corps had more than 6,500 Volunteers serving in nearly 50 developing countries.

And these Volunteers showed the world the true American values of peace, prosperity, and opportunity that had been eclipsed by the Cold War.

Over the past 50 years, through war and conflict, Sarge's foundational work at the Peace Corps has enabled Volunteers to show the world a hopeful, uplifting side of America that reflects our fundamental values of service and tolerance.

Today, Sarge's legacy lives on in the quarter million Americans who have served as Peace Corps Volunteers in 139 countries around the world. All in the name of peace and goodwill.

Beyond the Peace Corps, Sarge was actively engaged in our civic society, as Ambassador to France, leader of the War on Poverty, and as a Vice Presidential candidate. His touch can be found on some of our nation's finest efforts, including Head Start, the Special Olympics, and racial integration.

But above all, Sarge was a devoted public servant. He set a powerful example for what good

could be accomplished in the public sector. I will always hold special memories of sharing Peace Corps stories with Sarge at various events that honored the agency so close to both our hearts.

And, one of the most significant moments in my life was the privilege of being presented with the Peace Corps Public Service Award in 2006 by Sargent Shriver.

To all who knew him, Sargent Shriver was a man of tremendous heart and vision who leaves behind a living legacy of service and hope. That legacy of public service lives on in the lives of his children.

Sargent Shriver's life reminds us of the value of distinguished public service, and that it is incumbent upon all of us to renew his vision of a better America for future generations.

My thoughts and prayers are with his children and grandchildren and the entire Shriver and Kennedy families.

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